ABSOLUTE RATING: Average **IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Average

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 77.

The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from unsatisfactory to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD

Absolute Rating Average

Improvement Rating Average

2001 2002

2003

2004

(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS

Our School

Schools With Students Like Ours









Mathematics

English/ Language Arts

Mathematics

English/ Language Arts

Advanced







Below Basic

DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** Student performance met expectations.
- Basic Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORI	NG BASIC OR ABO	OVE ON THE	PACT	
	English/			Social
Student Group	Language Arts	Math	Science	Studies
All students (n=250)	76.4	56.8	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than				
Speech (n=26)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=224)) 79	61.2		
Gender				
Male (n=128)	73.4	51.6		
Female (n=121)	80.2	62.8		
Ethnic Group				
African American (n=173)	68.2	48.6		
Hispanic (n=2)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=73)	94.5	74		
Other (n=2)	N/A	N/A		
Lunch Status Group				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=175)	70.3	48		
Pay for lunch (n=72)	91.7	79.2		

SCHOOL PROFILE INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

		Change From	Schools with Students	Median Elementary
	Our School	Last Year	like ours	School
SCHOOL				
Dollars spent per student	\$5,202	N/A	\$5,508	\$5,347
 Prime instructional time 	88.8%	Down from 89%	89.3%	90.2%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.6 to 1	N/A	18.1 to 1	18.7 to 1
STUDENTS (n=551)				
Attendance Rate	96.6%	Up from 96.2%	95.9%	96.2%
 Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level 	8.4%	N/A	5.7%	4.1%
 Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level 	8.4%	N/A	4.9%	3.1%
 First graders who attended full day kindergarten 	96.6%	Up from 92.9%	96.6%	96.3%
 Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards 	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retention rate	6.3%	Up from 4.2%	4.6%	3.6%
TEACHERS (n=49)				
 Professional Development days per teacher 	7.7 Days	Up from 7.5	8 Days	7.6 days
Attendance Rate	93.6%	Down from 94.1		95.1%
 Teachers with advanced degrees 	44.9%	Down from 50%	42.3%	47.7%
 Continuing contract teachers 	77.6%	Down from 84.8	% 80%	83.8%
Teachers with out-of-field permits	0%	No change	0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from the previous school year	87.3%	Up from 86.7%	86.2%	87.2%
Average teacher salary	\$34,218	Down 0.6%	\$36,413	\$37,520

SCHOOL FACTS

		Change From	Schools with Students	Median Elementary
	Our School	Last Year	like ours	School
SCHOOL				
 Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries 	65.3%	N/A	64.5%	65.3%
 Principal's years at the school 	11	N/A	3	4.0
 Parents attending conferences 	94.4%	N/A	95.1%	95.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
STUDENTS				
On academic plans	35.3%	Up from 28.5%	52%	43.1%
 On academic probation 	5.4%	N/A	0%	0.0%
 Older than usual for grade 	2.2%	Up from 0.6%	1.6%	1.1%
 Suspended or expelled 	4	N/A	2	1
 Gifted and talented 	8.3%	Down from 10.7%	6 7.8%	11.5%
With disabilities other than speech	5.6%	Up from 5.3%	8.5%	8.4%

PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Willow Drive Elementary is known as a friendly, neighborhood school. Most of our students live within walking distance, and we have striven to create a warm, family like atmosphere for our students, parents, and staff members. Having recently completed a renovation project, our facilities include a beautiful media center, up to date computer and science labs, new early childhood and related arts classrooms, and a modern office complex. Willow Drive School serves primarily a lower income population with 75%-80% of our students qualifying for free or reduced priced meals. We also have a rather transient population as approximately 30% of our students transfer on a yearly basis.

In spite of these challenges, we have been fortunate to experience a modest but steady improvement in our goal of increasing student achievement. Some steps that we have taken to accomplish this include correlating our curriculum with the state standards, participation in the South Carolina Reading Initiative, reducing class size, Reading Recovery for reluctant readers in 1st grade, small group reading pull out in grades K-3, after school assistance, looping (a teacher remains with the same class for consecutive years), a variety of parent involvement activities, and staff development. We are continuing to support the emotional and social growth of our students through peer mediation, student incentives, community programs, and guidance services. We also involve our students in community service projects such as Jump Rope for Heart, Canned Food Drive, Christmas Cards for Shaw, Pennies for Patients. March of Dimes WalkAmerica. and more.

This year we are featuring the theme "Reading Around the World," which involves multiculturalism, reading, writing, and geography. PTA-funded murals throughout the school reflect the continents studied at each grade level. In addition, we are implementing the Reading Renaissance Program that encourages students to read independently. We also have a professionally staffed science lab and an open library schedule to encourage student research. Finally, we are using small group literacy instruction in 1st and 2nd grade classrooms, and have purchased quantities of leveled readers and other literature to enhance instruction. In closing, be assured that the faculty and staff are dedicated to the mission of providing a high quality education to all children at Willow Drive Elementary School.

Submitted by Tom Davis, Principal for 2000-01



Willow Drive Elementary 26 Willow Drive Sumter. SC 29150

Grades K-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 551 Students

Principal

Mrs. Melissa O'Connor 803-773-5796

Superintendent

Dr. William O. Cason 803-469-8536

Board Chair

Mrs. Ione J. Dwyer 803-775-6219

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade: Average

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

EVALUATIONS DI TEAGNERS AND STODENTS				
Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents	
Satisfied with learning environment	90.7	82.9	(Avail. 2002)	
Satisfied with social and physical environment	90.7	73.2		
Satisfied with home-school relations	55.8	90.2		

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

1

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at www.myscschools.com